

41. The motion is agreed to. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. This will be the last vote this morning.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state:

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jon David Levy, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Richard J. Durbin, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Brian Schatz, Heidi Heitkamp, Martin Heinrich, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Mazie Hirono, Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Angus S. King, Jr., Tim Kaine, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Jon David Levy, of Maine, to be United States District Court Judge for the District of Maine, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rules.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 63, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 116 Ex.]

YEAS—63

Ayotte	Harkin	Murkowski
Baldwin	Heinrich	Murphy
Begich	Heitkamp	Murray
Bennet	Heller	Nelson
Blumenthal	Hirono	Paul
Booker	Hoeven	Reed
Boxer	Isakson	Reid
Brown	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Kaine	Sanders
Cardin	King	Schatz
Carper	Kirk	Schumer
Casey	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Collins	Landrieu	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Donnelly	Levin	Udall (CO)
Durbin	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Feinstein	Markey	Walsh
Flake	McCaskill	Warner
Franken	Menendez	Warren
Gillibrand	Merkley	Whitehouse
Hagan	Mikulski	Wyden

NAYS—34

Alexander	Coburn	Enzi
Barrasso	Cochran	Fischer
Blunt	Corker	Graham
Burr	Cornyn	Grassley
Chambliss	Crapo	Hatch
Coats	Cruz	Inhofe

Johanns	Portman	Thune
Johnson (WI)	Risch	Toomey
Lee	Roberts	Vitter
McCain	Scott	Wicker
McConnell	Sessions	
Moran	Shelby	

NOT VOTING—3

Boozman	Pryor	Rubio
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 63, the nays are 34. The motion to invoke cloture is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I wish to speak as in morning business for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MISSISSIPPI STORMS

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I simply want to take a moment to say a few words about the devastating storms that swept through my home State of Mississippi yesterday.

My prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives, those who were injured, and the communities across the State that are now hard at work to pick up the pieces.

We are grateful for local officials, weather forecasters, and first responders who saved lives by getting the word out that people should seek shelter from the storm. This is government at its best, when State, local, and Federal forces, alongside the news media and private businesses, work together to keep people out of harm's way. There is no doubt this cooperation and communication saved hundreds of lives across the South yesterday. Both will be instrumental in preparing for additional storms in the forecast today.

Mississippians are known for being resilient in the wake of tragedy. We have overcome unprecedented challenges in the past, and we will do so again. Nature's wrath may be fierce but the spirit of fellowship and perseverance of my fellow Mississippians—as well as all Americans—will move us forward.

I thank the Chair.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:58 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

MINIMUM WAGE FAIRNESS ACT— MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 3:30 p.m. will be under the control of the majority.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, we are now debating legislation that will be up for a vote tomorrow. It will be a cloture vote on bringing a minimum wage increase bill to the floor.

Let's be clear about this. It is a cloture vote. This means it is going to take 60 votes, and that will happen tomorrow. I assume most of the day we will be discussing that. I hope so. I know others have come to the floor previously to discuss this.

As the chairman of the committee and as the chief sponsor of this bill, I intend to be back on the floor later today to respond to some of the allegations made by Senators on the other side of the aisle regarding this bill and minimum wage as a concept, but I wish to take a few minutes to sort of set the stage for this legislation and what it is going to mean for our economy and for working Americans.

What I would say at the outset is that the minimum wage bill is about a lot of things: It is going to give an economic boost. It will increase the GDP of our country. It will do a lot of good economically for our society, but basically it is about economic fairness. It is about what kind of society we want America to be.

Keep in mind, the Fair Labor Standards Act which set the minimum wage was passed at the end of the Depression, 1939, when we were still in the Depression, and it was immediately to give a raise in wages to hard-working Americans. That is what it did.

Since that time, actually on both sides of the aisle, we have raised the minimum wage a number of times. This is just another step in making sure that those at the bottom of the economic ladder in America also get a hand up, to get help to make sure they too have a fair shot at the American dream.

So that is what this minimum wage bill is truly about. It is about core American values; the value that no one who works full time all year long should live in poverty. That is what this is about.

The fact is the value of the minimum wage has eroded so much over the last few years that the minimum wage right now is way below poverty. In other words, someone can work full time every day, all year long, and they are still in poverty. But they are working every day. That is not fair. The American value system is one that if someone puts in their work and works hard, they ought not to be living in poverty.

Right now, tens of millions of Americans are struggling just to keep a roof over their heads, to pay the heating bill, to find some money for an extra pair of shoes for a growing child, even getting money together to take the bus to work. Think about this: A minimum wage worker's paycheck has stayed the same since 2009. This chart illustrates what has happened.

If we go back to 2009, the minimum wage has increased zero percent. But